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important rule will be the federal law when it's applicable.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Then, Senator Landis, because that's what I thought it meant but I wanted you to say it, we then are delegating to the federal government the authority, by their changing legislation, to alter Nebraska's law. Is that the way this would operate?

SENATOR LANDIS: I think we're recognizing the reality of the situation and announcing it here as opposed to extending that principle. Senator Chambers, your distinguished days as a student at the Creighton Law School would have brought you in touch with Marbury v. Madison and any other number of cases that established the fact that federal law governs in a conflict over state law. Now, the word here is "applicable," I agree, but...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What this is saying is that the federal government can legislate and, by its legislation, modify Nebraska law; not supersede, not preempt, but modify it. That's what I'm looking at. And we cannot, as a State Legislature, delegate to the federal government the authority to change Nebraska's law by legislating. The only body authorized under the Nebraska Constitution to legislate for this state is the Legislature. If there's a conflict between state law and federal law, we know that the state law takes second place, but we're not talking about that because we wouldn't...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...even have to state it. This seems, to me, to be saying that however the Congress legislates, that is automatically going to amend Nebraska law without the Legislature doing anything.

SENATOR LANDIS: I don't see it that way, Senator Chambers, and perhaps the word "applicable" is there because of the use of the word "treaty" as covering all of those. To the extent that we need to comply with a treaty, this body of law is going to be sublimated to that treaty.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right.